

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows. This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- 1-10. (Canceled).
11. (Currently Amended) A cooking area comprising at least one heating element, a power controller for setting a heating output of the heating element which operates according to the set heating output in at least one of a first operating mode and a second operating mode, and an indicating device which indicates the set heating ~~outputs-output~~ in the first operating mode with symbols from a first set of symbols, wherein the indicating device indicates the set heating ~~outputs-output~~ in the second operating mode with symbols from a second set of symbols of a different type of symbolism compared to the first set of symbols.
12. (Previously Presented) The cooking area according to claim 11, wherein the indicating device consists of a seven-segment display.
13. (Previously Presented) The cooking area according to claim 11, wherein the first set of symbols comprises a series of numbers from "0" to "9" and the second set of symbols does not include numbers.
14. (Currently Amended) The cooking area according to claim 12, wherein the second set of symbols comprises ~~combinations-one or more~~ one or more of three transverse segments of the seven-segment display.
15. (Previously Presented) The cooking area according to claim 11, wherein the heating outputs associated with the first operating mode are grouped in a group of

high heating outputs and the heating outputs associated with the second operating mode are grouped in a group of low heating outputs.

16. (Previously Presented) The cooking area according to claim 11, wherein the first operating mode is a continuous operating mode in which power is supplied continuously to the heating element.
17. (Previously Presented) The cooking area according to claim 11, wherein the second operating mode is a clocked operating mode in which power is supplied discontinuously to the heating element. >
18. (Previously Presented) The cooking area according to claim 11, wherein the heating element is a gas burner which is supplied with gas via a gas pipe.
19. (Previously Presented) The cooking area according to claim 17, wherein the clocked operating mode is activated at heating outputs below a minimum heating output at which the heating element is still operating with a minimal continuous supply of gas in the continuous operating mode.
20. (Previously Presented) The cooking area according to claim 17, wherein the display device displays the symbols for indicating power stages in which the heating element is operating in the clocked mode as flashing.
21. (New) An appliance comprising at least one operating element, a controller for setting output of the operating element which operates according to the set output in at least one of a first operating mode and a second operating mode, and an indicating device which indicates the set output in the first operating mode with symbols from a first set of symbols, wherein the indicating device indicates the set output in the second operating mode with symbols from a second set of

symbols of a different type of symbolism compared to the first set of symbols in a manner that visually distinguishes the first operating mode from the second operating mode.

22. (New) The cooking area according to claim 21, wherein the indicating device consists of a seven-segment display to alternatively display the first or second sets of symbols.
23. (New) The cooking area according to claim 21, wherein the first set of symbols comprises a series of numbers from "0" to "9" and the second set of symbols does not include numbers.
24. (New) The cooking area according to claim 22, wherein the second set of symbols comprises one or more of three transverse segments of the seven-segment display.
25. (New) The cooking area according to claim 11, wherein the set heating output in the first and second operating modes relates to heating power.